

REMARKS

The Examiner has objected to FIG. 2c as not showing a transitional end that is contoured. FIG. 2c as original submitted, is distinctive from FIG. 2a which is a beveled and not contoured. The distinction in the drawings, although present, may not be profound. FIG. 2c has been modified to make the contoured feature more profound. Should the Examiner desire a further modification to FIG. 2c it would be appreciated if the details would be set forth. At this time, FIG. 2c is being submitted marked up in red until the change is approved before having a new formal sheet of drawings submitted.

In the Specification, a number change was required and has been made.

In the claims, both the limitations of claim 3 or the limitations of claim 5 were deemed by the Examiner to render claim 1 patentable. Claim 1 has been modified to include the limitations of claim 5. A newly submitted claim, claim 21 has been added to replace claim 3 as merged into claim 1.

All of the formal objections necessitated by the Examiner have been made.

The Examiner has cited Mataki Badea, 6,398,445 to reject claims 1, 8 and 9. Mataki Badea discloses a retainer comprising a cylindrical housing with an outer surface and an opening through it that is concentrically located in the housing. The opening has an inner surface and also has at least one hole extending radially from the inner surface to the outer surface. A pin has a top surface and a short pin and long sides. The prongs mounted to slide in the hole and has a transitional end.

The Examiner further rejected claims 1, 2 and 4 based upon Suh, U.S. 6,575,566. Suh discloses a cylindrical housing with an outer surface and an opening through it that is concentrically located in the housing, the opening having an under surface and further having at least one hole extending radially from the inner surface

to the outer surface, a pin having a top surface and short and long sides, the pin being mounted to slide on the hole, the pin further having a transmittal end between the long side, the transitional end extending beyond the inner surface into the opening and means for forcing the pin through the opening wherein the hole has an upper section with a cross-sectional area and a lower section with a cross-sectional area smaller than that of the upper section, wherein the cylindrical housing has a groove located about the outer surface.

The prior art cited by the Examiner failed to teach the lower section being longer than the upper section. Also, the prior art failed to teach the cylindrical housing to have a groove located about the outer surface such that the hole extends from the groove on the outer surface.

The Examiner has cited other art, which has not been applied, but which will be briefly reviewed.

The Kass patent, U.S. 1,599,278 teaches a repair clamp which also may be used as a radio ground. A cylinder is shown with a turn screw but the cylinder is distinctive. Most of all if the features of the applicants' invention are not shown.

The Williams, et al patent U.S. 1,735,192 is a clamp for holding a pipe with no significance except a cylinder, although hinged, with an opening.

The Lio patent U.S. 5,364,281 is an electrical connector system with a cylinder but the sliding member is not shown and vertically every feature of applicants' claimed invention is not shown.

The Myamoto, et al patent U.S. 6,668,865 is a holder for a corrugated tube. It should be noted that Myamoto, et al was issued on December 30, 2003 after the filing of the current application on November 3, 2003.

European Patent Application 0-489-625-A1 is a clamping device with no significant relationship to applicants' invention.

The Application is now believed to be in condition for allowance which action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Maier, III".

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IN THE DRAWINGS

Please modify FIG. 2C to further make explicit the contoured transition end.

Sheet 2 is annexed showing the change in red.